

I. Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising a ball mill including disrupting particles that are not substantially spherical and comprise screw-bits, cone balls, pins having a pointed end, or non-spherical shot.

32. (Previously Presented) A method comprising disrupting a biological sample in a ball mill loaded with disrupting particles of Claim 31.

33. - 46. (Canceled)

47. (New) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the disrupting particles comprise screw-bits.

48. (New) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the disrupting particles comprise cone balls.

49. (New) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the disrupting particles comprise pins having a pointed end.

50. (New) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the disrupting particles comprise non-spherical shot.

51. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein the disrupting particles comprise screw-bits.

52. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein the disrupting particles comprise cone balls.

53. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein the disrupting particles comprise pins having a pointed end.

54. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein the disrupting particles comprise non-spherical shot.

55. (New) A kit comprising:

- (1) disrupting particles of Claim 31; and
- (2) a lysis buffer for lysis of biological samples.